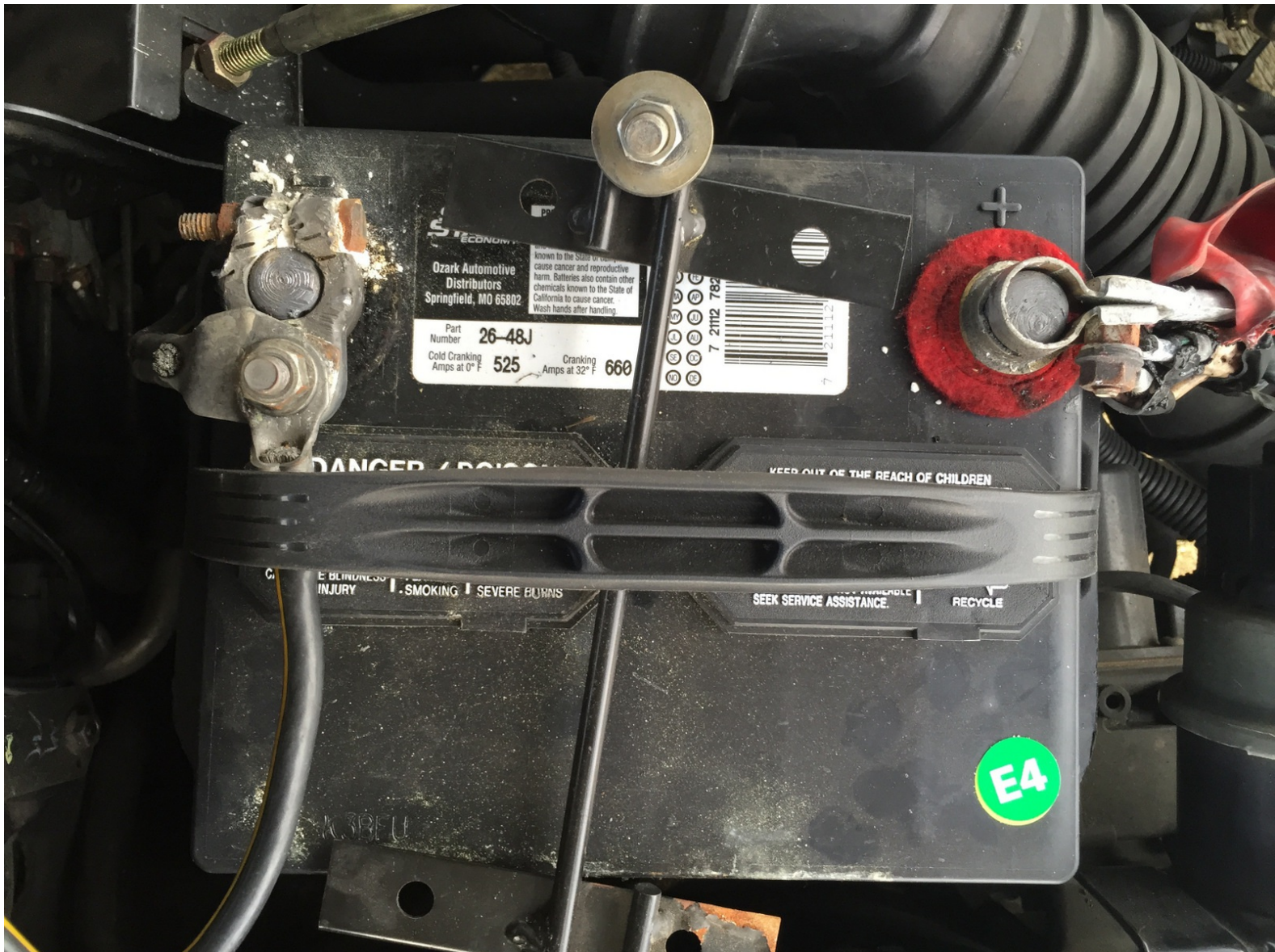




How to Replace a Corroded Car Battery Terminal

This guide will teach you how to safely replace a corroded terminal on your car battery.

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INTRODUCTION

Is your car having trouble starting? Is there corrosion build-up on your terminals, preventing a proper connection? This handy guide will help you remove the troublesome terminal and replace it with a brand new one.



TOOLS:

- [Smart Wrench](#) (1)
- [Cloth](#) (1)
- [Paper Towels](#) (1)

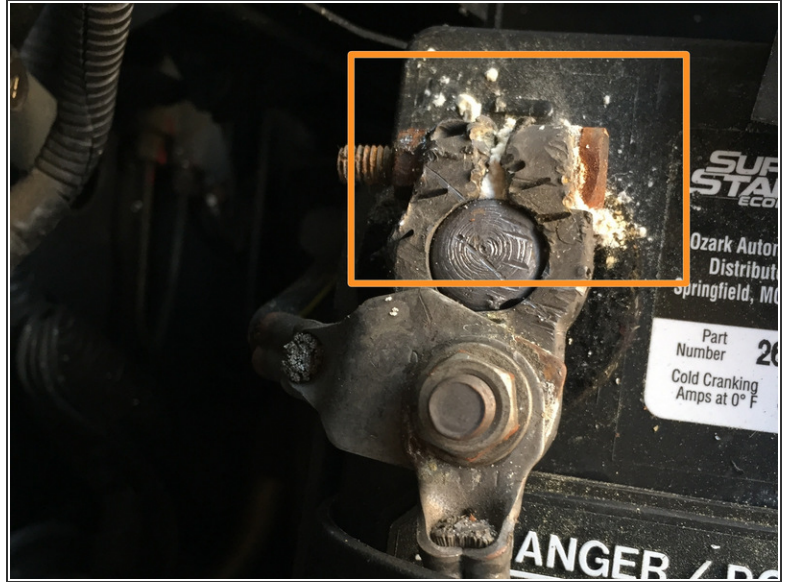
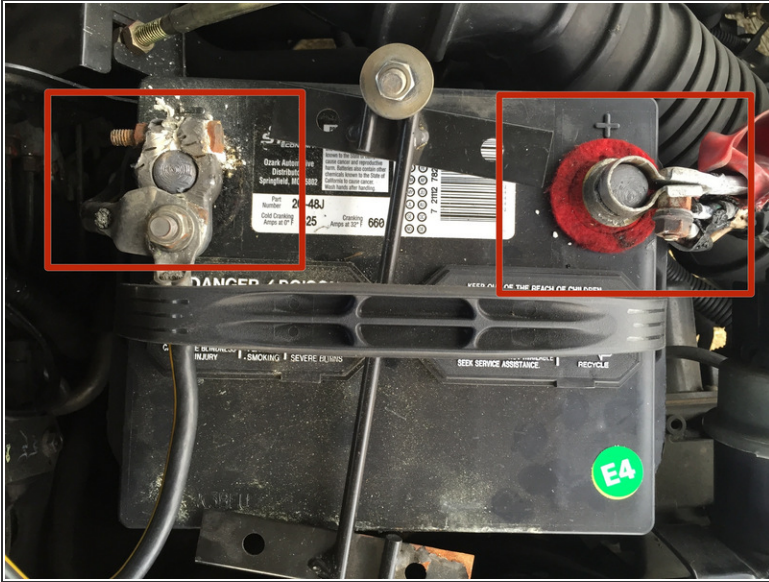


PARTS:

- [Battery Terminal](#) (1)

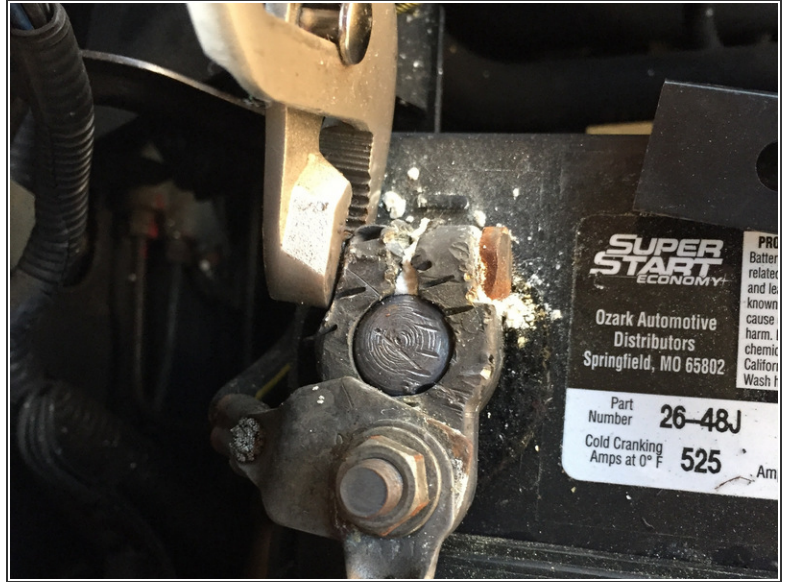
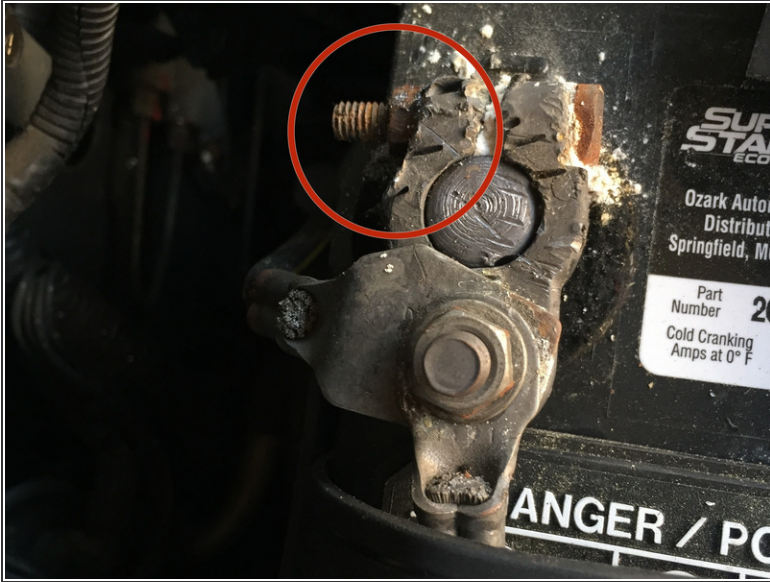
Most car battery terminals come with a combination of a flat washer and a screw-on head. Some may come with a nut instead, but either set can be used in this guide.

Step 1 — Car Battery Terminal



- ☒ Remember to remove your car key from the ignition and shut off the car before performing this guide.
- Locate the terminals on the top of the car battery. Next to each terminal is a positive(+) or negative(-) sign, indicated the charge.
- The positive terminal looks to be in working order, but the negative end has a lot of corrosion build-up. This will be the terminal to be replaced.

Step 2



- Now, find the nut located on the side of the terminal.
- Using the wrench, rotate the nut counterclockwise.
- ⓘ Use an appropriately-sized wrench or socket, not channel locks as shown in the photo.
- ⓘ You do not need to loosen the nut all the way off the bolt, but just enough to loosen the terminal's grip on the node.

Step 3



- Carefully, use a cloth to lift up the terminal off of the node.
 - ⚠ Be cautious when handling battery corrosion, as it can irritate the skin and is harmful if it comes in contact with your eyes.
- Place the terminal on a paper towel, and make sure there is no contact with the node.
- ⚠ **Always remember to remove the negative terminal first, before the positive end. This will remove the possibility of being electrically shocked.**

Step 4



- On the positive terminal, locate the nut along the side.
- Using the wrench, rotate the nut counterclockwise.
- ❗ You do not need to fully loosen the nut off the bolt, but just enough for the terminal to be easily removed from the node.

Step 5



- Using a cloth, carefully remove the positive terminal from the node.
- Next, place the terminal on a paper towel, and make sure it does not come into contact with the node.

Step 6



- On the negative terminal, locate the nut on the side facing upwards.
- Using the wrench, rotate the nut counterclockwise and remove it from the bolt.

Step 7



- Take the wire plate on top and remove it carefully from the bolt.
- At this point, it is fine to handle the metal plate with your hands since the terminals are disconnected from the battery and there is nothing completing the circuit.
- Now, remove the bottom wire plate from the bolt, placing it carefully to the side.

Step 8



- Set aside the old battery terminal, and replace it with the new one.
- Next, replace the wire plates in the order they were taken off in.
 - Although it is not necessary that the plates be placed in the same order again, it is generally a good idea to go with the order the car was built with.

Step 9



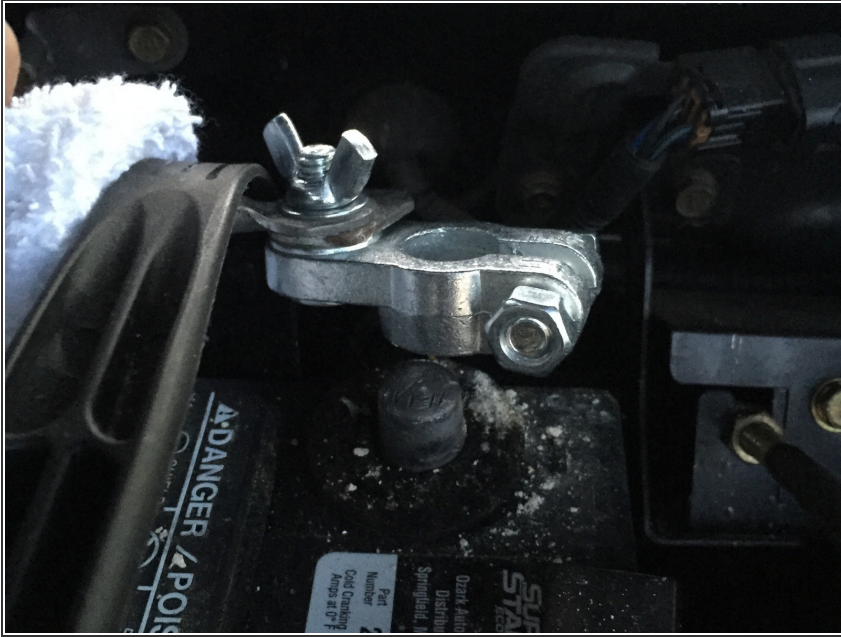
- Place the flat washer and the screw-on head that came with the battery terminal onto the vertical bolt.
- Tighten the head clockwise and make sure the wire plates are secured.
- ❗ Not all battery terminal packs come with a washer and screw-on head. If your pack comes with a nut, use the wrench and tighten the bolt clockwise.

Step 10



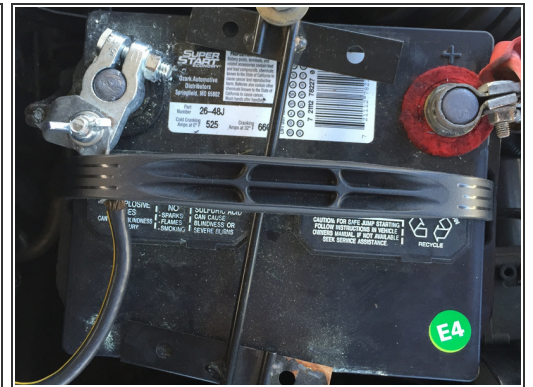
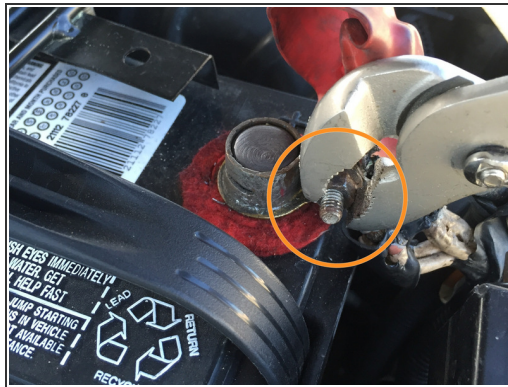
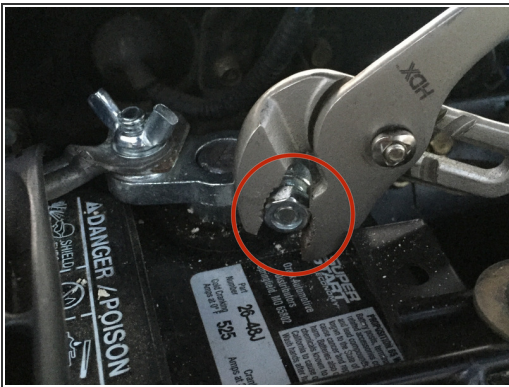
- Using the cloth, place the positive terminal back onto the positive node.

Step 11



- Place the negative terminal back onto the negative node, using the cloth again.

Step 12



- On the negative terminal, use the wrench to rotate the side nut clockwise.
- Next, perform the same action on the side nut of the positive terminal.
 - ❗ In order for a secure connection, be sure to tighten the nut as much as possible.
- Now enjoy the fresh new terminal, and take your car out for a spin!